

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data acquisition and retrieval system having  
wireless handheld interfaces for user entry of data, said system  
comprising:  
a data base for storing data input by said user;  
a command server for managing said data base;  
a communications server for receiving and transmitting packets of  
information to and from said handheld interfaces, said packets  
being constructed in a first format having a header and a data  
segment, said communications server converting packets to a  
second format and constructing a message therefrom, said  
communications server transmitting said message to said command  
server; said command server accessing said database and returning  
a message list, said communications server converting said  
returned message to said first format of said packets and  
transmitting said packets to said handheld interfaces, said  
handheld interface using a touch pad for allowing the user to  
enter data by contacting virtually defined regions on said touch  
pad.

add  
A4  
add B5  
add C6